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LOCAL NEWS - SOUTHERN AFRICA 2/81.



As this will be the issue of the Swiss Review which will be appearing before the National Day of Switzerland is celebrated the news of the various centres are concentrated on those festivities. A summary appears below, and should enable everybody to reserve the dates early and make sure to attend. It is especially a great day for the Family and the children. The Heads and Staff of the Swiss Embassy in Pretoria, the Consulate General of Johannesburg and the Consulate of Cape Town extend to their compatriots the best wishes on the occasion of the 1st of August. Very appropriate we would like to reproduce the following:-

"Schweizerpsalm" definitiv Landeshymne.

*"Trittst im Morgenrot daher,
Seh ich dich im Strahlenmeer,
Dich, du Hoherhabener,
Herrlicher!
Wenn der Alpen Firn sich rötet,
Betet, freie Schweizer, betet
Eure fromme Seele ahnt
Gott den Herrn im hehren Vaterland*

Bern, 1. April. (SDA) Der Bunderrat hat am Mittwoch unter die langjährigen Bemühungen um eine geeignete Nationalhymne einen Schlussstrich gezogen und den "Schweizerpsalm" definitiv als offizielle schweizerische Landeshymne bezeichnet.

Da er rechtlich die Hymne nur für die Armee und den Einflussbereich der diplomatischen Vertretungen für verbindlich erklären kann, lädt er die Kantone mit einem Schreiben ein, in ihrem Zuständigkeitsbereich in gleichem Sinne zu entscheiden.

Der "Schweizerpsalm" von Alberik Zwysig und Leonhard Widmer war 1961 erstmals und vorerst versuchsweise zur offiziellen schweizerischen Nationalhymne erklärt worden.

*Chers Lecteurs,
Dear Readers,*

Le Cercle des Romands de Jhb se fait à nouveau un plaisir de vous adresser son cordial bonjour et son invitation à un ralliement. Il vous livre ci-après la chronologie des manifestations marquantes qu'il a organisées ou auxquelles il a pris part durant la période juin 1980 à mai 1981, témoignage de sa pleine et sincère intégration à la vie de la Chère Colonie suisse:

- 1980:**
Jun 7: Raclette au CS, participation record.
Août 3: Fête nationale au CS, avec propre tente, cuisine, cantine et ambiance.
Septembre 28: Fondue au CS; concours individuel gagné par le Champion d'Afrique du Sud, le Valaisan Gabriel Morard d'Ayent
Fin décembre: Participation du Choeur des Romands au Noël des Aînés, CS
- 1981**
Janvier 11: Verre de l'Amitié, vœux de M. le Consul général Adams et réflexions de M. le Pasteur Germiquet
Avril: Formation d'une équipe masculine aux Journées sportives du Club suisse

Mai 9: Concert d'ouverture au Carlton, lors soirée annuelle Männerchor.

Les manifestations du Groupe du Cap, à ce jour encore un peu restreint, ont elles aussi connues de francs succès, dans la meilleure des humeurs.

Dans le contexte du Transval, du Natal, de l'OFS, du Lesotho et du Swaziland les préparatifs de l'Assemblée annuelle et de la Fête nationale 81 vont bon train. Les Consuls du Cap et de Jhb se feront en tout temps un plaisir de vous livrer les informations des deux sections. Pour Jhb, sonnez nos délégués Robert BAUDET, 838-5846 ou Charles DUFEY, 788-2808. Bienvenue . . . et Vive les Romands.

Certainly quite a lot of news from our amis romands, and like for them the Swiss Review is available for anybody. Just send your entry early, so to be sure that it is included in the next edition, which will close on 31st Aug. The last number for 1981 will have the deadline 20 Nov. Amongst the new advertisers this month are 3 Restaurants, the Ticino in Cape Town, Switzerland in Durban und Scratch Daniels in JHB. Some more on the Engineering and also Swisstrade a new concept in Trade Relations. Fino la prossima volta tanti saluti a tutti.

*Ciao
Your Editor*



1. Augustfeiern! SWISS NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATIONS:

Cape Town.

- 1. Aug.** Luncheon & Dinner Dance at Arthur's Seat Hotel.
- 2. Aug.** Children's Day Soccer Braai at Club.

Johannesburg.

- 25 July.** National Day Dance at Club
1. Aug. Official celebrations at Club

Natal

- 1. Aug.** Dinner at Switzerland Rest.
- 2. Aug.** Family Day at Hammarsdale

Pretoria

- 25 July.** Celebrations at Fountains Valley

Port Elizabeth

- 1. Aug.** Dinner at Zwartkop Yacht Club

Windhoek

- 1. Aug.** Feier im Jugendbundheim

Salisbury

- 1. Aug.** Celebrations at Club.

Lesotho: Contact A. Hartmann.

Swaziland: Contact H. Schmid.

Further details see under each centre.



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SWISS CLUB, Stephan Way, Greenpoint
(021) 44-8405 or 44-8498

First we would like to give some details of the **Swiss Rifle Club**, Cape Town, of which the Committee for 1981 is as follows:

President: W. Maetzener
 Vice Pres. R. Ackermann
 Secretary P. Steinmann
 Treasurer W. Christen
 Range R. Ackermann &
 Officers M. May
 Ammo W. Wymann
 Warden

further members are: R. Bader, A. De Piaz and R. Frey.

The Club Champion for 1980 was A. De Piaz, followed by W. Maetzener and R. Ackermann. In the Auslandschweizer Fernschiessen, Cape Town was placed 7th world wide, and the best Southern African Club.

New members to the Rifle Club are always welcome. The dates of the next shooting competitions are as follows:

27th June Obligatorisches, St. Galler, Vancouver.
 25th July St. Galler, Interclub, Vancouver August league team
 5th September. Second match of the .22. At the Swiss Club **Soccer** has really got under way. Just come along on a Sunday and enjoy a good game and the hospitality of the catering Dept.

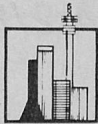
Also on the Social side there will be a **Fondue evening** on July 4th. Just the right thing for a cold winters night!

Further events at the Club will be, with the Highlight of course our Swiss National Day celebrations, to which **all** Swiss and their friends are invited:

- 1. Aug. National Day Dinner Dance at the Arthur's Seat Hotel.
- 2. Aug. Soccer Braai and 1st August for the Children, with Lampions, etc at the club grounds, Green Point
- 17/18 Oct. IFA Soccer Days
- 7/8 Nov. Soccer Gruempeltturnier
- 4. Dec. Baenzejass
- 6. Dec. Xmas Tree for the children.

It might be of interest to many readers to know that Swissair has moved to new premises and is now at **Swissair, African Eagle Centre, 9th Floor, St. Georges Street.**

Phone No's. stay the same: 21-4938/39.



SWISS CONSULATE GENERAL (011) 838-5102
SWISS CLUB Le Roux Ave. Halfway House.
(011) 805-2912/13

The **1st of August celebrations** organised by the Swiss Club Johannesburg will take place as follows:

Sat. 25th July Dinner-Dance at the Club.
 Sat. 1st August official celebration with Bonfire etc. at the Club grounds.

While mentioning dates please remember also the GSNA Lottomatch on 5th July. The Skittling Club Beerfest on the 26/27 Sept. The Handball Tournament organised by Helvetia Handball Club on 25th Oct. and the GSNA Aelplerfest on the 7/8 Nov. 1981.

Looking at the past events the **Swiss Male Choir** would like to thank all the visitors to their Concert/Dinner Dance. The next Concert will be held on 8th May 1982 - plenty advance notice!

The Swiss sportsmen did very well during the S.A. Games and in the **Schwinger** competition which was won by Gerrie Oppermann, Burno Villiger finished in 6th position.

In the **Curling** competition at the Carlton Skyrink the team Dolly-Hi consisting entirely of Swiss finished in 3rd place after the teams Leopards and Flyers in 4th place was the team Callies. A good effort and congratulations to these Sportsmen and Women. By now it is probably known to most readers that Switzerland has become World Curling Champions in Canada with the team of Lausanne-Riviera.

Unfortunately some of the long standing members of the Swiss Community passed away during the recent weeks amongst them the Pioneer of Swiss Banking in South Africa Walter Zehnder who arrived just after the second World War. Paul Balmer well known as a real Swiss Craftsman and Gilbert Fragniers also are mourned and we express condolences to their families.

It may be a long way off, but those who were there last year, will be most interested to hear that on the 10th October another trip by **Steam train** is planned, make a note in your Diary.

The dates of the next few meetings of the **Swiss Rifle Club** Johannesburg are as follows:

- 11. July: Obligatorisches, St. Galler.
- 29. Aug. Zuercher und St. Galler, Vickers Cup.
- 19. Sept. Various Competitions.

The **Golf** enthusiasts, and there seem to be more and more amongst the Swiss, are advised that the team of Max Schmieder, Capt. A. Bossert, A. Miserez, E. Ryser finished 3rd in the International Tournament (18 teams participating) on the 3rd May at Sun City.

Once again we repeat the invitation to attend the National Day celebrations.



SWISS CLUB NATAL BOX 1220 DURBAN
TEL. Waldburger (031) 42-2141 (Res.) 94-2225

Starting off with the list of events which will take place in the near future:

- 4th July: Rifle Club Obligatorisches
- 12 July: Family Picnic at Nagel Dam
- 1 August: St. Gallenschiesen in the afternoon
- 1. Aug. Evening, a real celebration with Dinner, Dancing, etc. will be held at the Switzerland Restaurant in Durban (ex Fairhaven Hotel).
- 2. Aug. We will still celebrate this time with the whole family, especially also for the children at the Hammersdale Rifle Range.

As you see the Swiss Club Natal has always something to offer. Why not come along and find out. Attend one of the functions especially the National Day. The Swiss Male Choir Johannesburg would like to express its thanks to the Hospitality given to them during the Republic Festival by the Swiss in Pietermaritzburg and special mention is made of Rene Frei for his organisation and to Eugen the "Chaperon"!

16 National Groups took part in the celebrations, and the fact that the Swiss were the last to leave in the early morning proves once again, that they were the most successful, who said in singing???

There has even been a promise to try and make it an annual event again!



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(01411) 2-2846.

It was last year on 1st August that Peter in Kimberley hoisted the Swiss Flag over the highest (and best) Hotel in Town. Unfortunately no Swiss turned up to celebrate with him, so please don't

disappoint him this year. Roll up and then please write to us about it.

Not much news otherwise from the Free State so perhaps a little story about the "Centre" Province of the country might be appropriate:

You know that in the days of the Groot Trek all these ous got into their ox-wagons and made a bee-line for Transvaal.

Now, when they got to the Orange river, there was this great big sign-board that read:-

Everybody that reads Afrikaans and English must cross to the Transvaal. All those who can only read English must go to Natal -

All those who can only read Afrikaans must to to the Free State -

and those who cannot read at all must stay in the Cape Province!

Another thing of course is the fact that in the days of the Groot Trek a lot of people left the Cape and a lot also stayed behind . . . They are still behind!!!



PRETORIA

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Schweizer Klub Alpina Box 1927 Pretoria.
Tel. H. Wolf (012) 57-2290.

Am/Samstag 25. Juli wird der Nationalfeiertag durch die Schweizerkolonie in Pretoria gefeiert, im Fountains Valley. Und wieder einmal mehr werden unsere Freunde vom Schweizer Männerchor Johannesburg mithelfen um die Feier zu verschoenern. Ebenfalls werden die Schwinger zum Wettkampf antreten, und dies wird auch der erste Anlass sein an dem diese Sportler nach ihrem Uebersee Besuch teilnehmen, also ein interessantes "Schwingfest".

Selbverstaendlich sind zu der Nationalfeier alle Schweizer und deren Freunde eingeladen.

We make a special appeal to all Swiss to take part in the National Day celebrations at the Fountains Valley on Saturday 25th July. Bring your Family along, there is lots organised also for the Children, Sackgumpe, Tug-o-War, etc. The Refreshment Kiosk will provide you with Swiss Sausages, drinks, etc.

Das Vereinsprogramm fuer den Rest des Jahres sieht folgende Anlaesse vor: Juli Filmabend im Deutschen Klub:

25 Juli: 1 Augustfeier im Fountains-valley, mit Schwingfest.

19 Sept. Kegelabend Halfway House, 20.00 Uhr.

Okt.: Picknick an einem Damm Nahe Pretoria.

28. Nov.: Weihnachtsfeier Colombas Church.

Neue Mitglieder sind in unserem Verein jederzeit herzlich willkommen, es genuegt obige Nummer anzurufen.



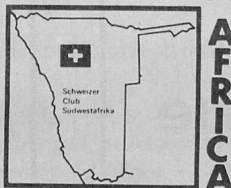
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SWISS CLUB BOX 1107 PORT ELIZABETH
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First the bad news . . . unfortunately the monthly meetings at the Walmer Country Club have to be discontinued through a change in Management at the Club - we have to look for a new venue, which will be communicated to you soon. The good news . . . the Swiss National Day will be celebrated on **Sat. 1. Aug. at the Zwartkop Yacht Club.** There will be a Dinner/Dance and lots of fun for everybody, as well as some messages for the National Day.

Sorry to hear that Peter Luescher with family is leaving for Switzerland and we wish him all the best and lots of success. **P.S.:** The Editor of the Swiss Review would be pleased to receive a photo from the National Day celebrations!

SOUTH WEST



A
F
R
I
C
A

SCHWEIZER KLUB SUEDEWESTAFRIKA
Box 22561 Windhoek, South West Africa.
Tel.: (061) 4-1652 / 2-6244.

Ein Wechsel an der Spitze des Vorstandes : Frau Emma Mutavdzic ist als Praesidentin gewaehlt worden und K. Neuenchwander als Vizepraes.

Besten Dank an Willy Peter fuer seine Dienste im vergangenen Jahr. Ein kleiner Rueckblick auf den Windhoeker Karneval zeigt, dass wohl die groesste Attraktion an diesem typischen "deutschen" Anlass diesmal die Schweizer Guggemusig aus Johannesburg war!

Davon wird wohl noch lange gesprochen und wie auch in der Zeitung stand "Man wird die Gugge hier so schnell nicht vergessen und jederzeit gerne wiedersehen." Auch von den "Guggeler" aus Johannesburg besten Dank an die Gastgeber in Suedwest.

Die Schiess Sektion Windhoek meldet, dass zwar die genauen Daten der naechsten Treffen nicht bekannt sind im Moment, dass aber jeden Monat eine Veranstaltung stattfindet, bitte obige Nummern kontaktieren fuer Einzelheiten. Am 16. Juli findet im M & Z Café ein Quizabend statt. Fest steht aber dass vom Schweizerklub Suedwest am **1. August** im Jugendheim Windhoek eine Nationalfeier organisiert wird.

In gemuetlichen Kreise treffen wir uns fuer das leibliche Wohl ist gesorgt, und es wird vielleicht auch ein Hoehenfeuer organisiert.

Neue Mitglieder sind jederzeit herzlich willkommen wobei zur Nationalfeier alle Landsleute mit Familie eingeladen sind.



SWAZILAND

H. Schmid c/o Libbys
Box 77 Malkerns. Tel. (0194) 8-3001.

In his book "Dawn in Swaziland" Rev. C.C. Watts tells many interesting stories about the Queen Mother of the country at the time.

She was of course a very famous Rain-Maker and it is said that one day when a surveyor, or a man who brings water in the pipes to the town was introduced to her the Queen Mother said "When I want water I make rain myself!"

She was perhaps one of the most interesting figures in native life in Southern Africa.

Hans Schmid our correspondent in Swaziland would be very pleased to hear from the compatriots in the country about their suggestions to celebrate the Swiss National Day. Please give him a ring soon. Thanks!



LESOTHO

Armon Hartmann, Box 708, Maseru.
Tel. (0501) 2-2978 or 2-3034.

Over the next numbers of the Swiss Review the various Swiss Organisations which are active in Lesotho, i.e. Helvetas, Verein der Freunde von Lesotho, etc. will be presented and details of their activities given. At the moment one of the biggest projects undertaken by the Society of the Friends of Lesotho is the extension of the Ma Mohau Hospital.

It was in the year 1938 that Canadian sisters established the Mission of Ma Mohau, and in 1964 Dr. Berta Hardegger arrived and did her great work in establishing a Hospital with 40 beds. She worked until 1970, and in 1976 the Friends of Lesotho took over the Ma Mohau

Hospital which serves between 40 - 50 000 people in the high mountain region of the country. Since November 1980 the long overdue extension of the Hospital could be undertaken and is still in progress.

Now some news of interest to all the Swiss in Lesotho. It is planned to hold if possible a **National Day** celebration and an appeal is made to all those interested to get in touch with A. Hartmann at the above

address so a venue and time convenient to all can be arranged.

Seeing that this year 1. Aug. falls on a Saturday it could be possible to have a gathering like in the home country!



ZIMBABWE

Swiss Embassy Salisbury - Tel. 70-3997.
Swiss Club Salisbury, Arnot Rd.,
Tel. 8-4461 or 70-1946.

Bulawayo. Swiss Society, P.O. Box 1660. President: Mr. A.O. Gerber. Secretary: Mrs. H. Sauter.

Visit of Chargé d'Affaires of Switzerland to the Swiss Community of Bulawayo.

On 3rd April 1981, the Bulawayo Swiss Society was delighted to arrange a cocktail function to host the visit of Mr. Simon, Charge d' Affaires of Switzerland in Zimbabwe, and Mrs. Simon.

Mr. Gerber, President of the Swiss Club, had the pleasure of welcoming about 50 guests and he thanked them for their interest shown by their presence.

In his address to the gathering, Mr. Simon affirmed that our Community in the region of Bulawayo has never ceased to be part of the Swiss authorities' concern. He also conveyed to them the respects and best wishes of the Federal Council.

Furthermore, Mr. Simon paid tribute to the dedicated work of the President as well as of the committee members of the Swiss Society.

The Chargé d'Affaires replied to topical questions which were preoccupying some of the guests.

Generally, the visit to Bulawayo of the diplomatic Representative of Switzerland to Zimbabwe was warmly welcomed.

Salisbury:

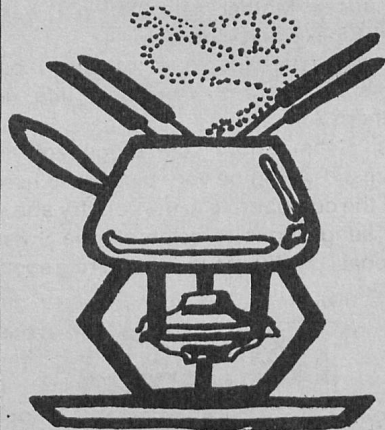
The outing by the Swiss Club to Umtali in April was a success despite the fact that the turnout could have been better.

The **National Day** will be celebrated on Saturday 1st August at the Club Ground, and something special is planned for this year - a **Swiss Cheese** party. This of course in addition to the traditional Bonfire, and lamps for the children as well as sports events during the whole day.

So please come along all compatriots and their friends are welcome to this celebration.

SOME LATE GREETINGS...

have just reached us also from **Botswana** where Karl Ackermann in Gaborone is always pleased to hear from any Swiss which might be visiting there. His phone No. is: 5-1459.



**The
Fondue
Pot**

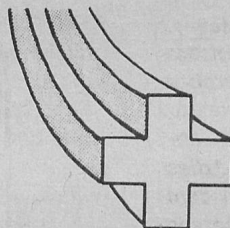
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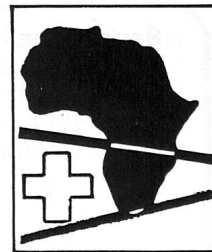
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Cape Town - 45-3227
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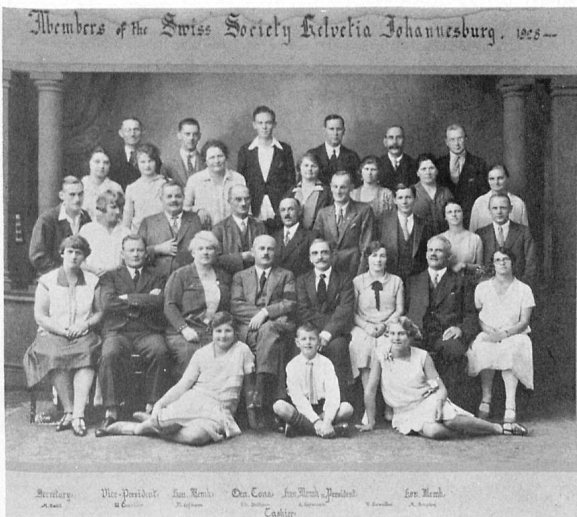
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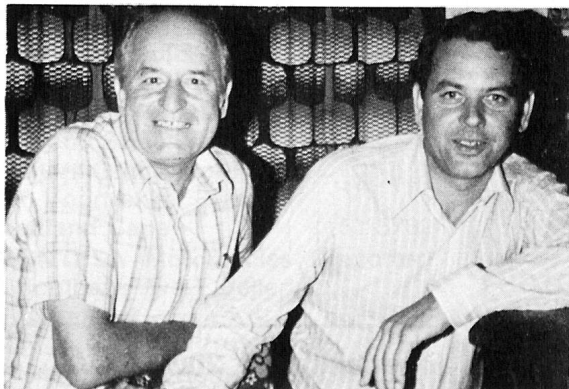
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SWISS HORTICULTURE in SOUTHERN AFRICA

In the "History of the Swiss in Southern Africa" second edition, we read that in the year 1792, Johann Jacob Ziegler arrived at the Cape, from Schaffhausen, as a schoolmaster, Ziegler later opened a school for the instruction of Dutch and French as major subjects. But perhaps his greatest contribution was that he helped to lay out the Botanical Gardens at Sea Point. Some one hundred years later in 1894, one of the first homes built in Parktown, Johannesburg, was "Hohenheim" the Victorian Mansion of Sir Lionel Phillips. But most famous was "Hohenheim" which stood in some twenty acres of ground, for its formal gardening, and also had probably Johannesburg's first private swimming pool. And who helped to create these gardens? None other than a Swiss Horticulturist Konrad Rickenbach. Ironically today, the ugly concrete slab of the new Johannesburg General Hospital covers the site of this beautiful piece of old Johannesburg. Only 70 years later, horticultural beauty was created once again by Swiss Gardeners, and even if the whole thing started as a hobby by a Swiss Engineer, Edwin Roth, it has become one of the biggest commercial enterprises of its kind in Africa. It is the story of **Sieling Farms** and we read . . .



E. Roth & H. Wohlgensinger.

As an indication of the demand for potplants 150,000 primroses will come on the market soon. 500 000 cyclamen seeds have been planted from which they will eventually market about 350 000 potted cyclamen.

The range of potplants at the nursery includes ferns, primroses, gloxinias, begonia, coleuses, poinsettias and primulas to name only seven of the 40 or more varieties. Very popular also are rubber trees and African Violets.

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The plants which are to be raised in glasshouses are placed on long asbestos tables which have been covered with river sand or a mixture of peatmoss and polystyrene flakes. The sand and moss hold



M. Marbach.

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The glass hot-houses at Sielings, warmed by steam from three giant boilers which consume 18 t of coal a night during peak cold periods, cover 48 000 m² and the shade houses, roofed with plastic, extend over 72 000 m².

Hail can be severe in the area but the plastic roofing on the shade houses can stand average to bad hailstorms and the glasshouses are protected by nylon netting.

In summer fans draw air into the glasshouses through walls of wood-wool which are kept watered. Cooling is by evaporation.

All the construction work was done on the farm and a team of about 40 is continually busy adding to the many plant houses.



Peter Forrer.

the moisture and this is important when no water is allowed to touch the blossoms, as is the case with cyclamen. Moisture is drawn into the pot from the damp peat or sand.

Water for the plants comes from canal from the Hartbeespoort Dam and from 28 boreholes on the farm.

One of the directors of the nursery is Mr. Hans Wohlgensinger, a Swiss who has been with Mr. Roth for more than 15 years. Mr. Wohlgensinger visits Europe regularly to study the overseas markets, as do the other nurserymen on the farm. New varieties are imported, tried, and if successful are included in the catalogue and grown in quantities.

Other Swiss nurserymen on the farm are Mr. Peter Forrer and Mr. M. Marbach.

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